Gear Flinger

Kit contains:

- 3 cardboard flinger pieces
- 2 rubber bands
- 2 cardboard gears

You will need: scissors, glue, and tape.

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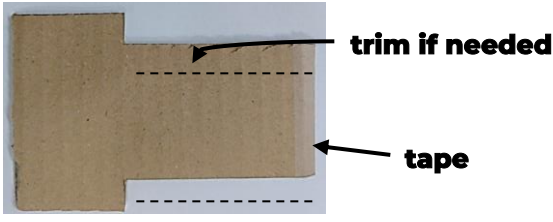
INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1. Cut out the skinny rectangles from the largest gear flinger piece. (The remaining T shape will become your launch tab.)

Step 2. Glue the skinny rectangles to the solid cardboard square along parallel edges. Glue the open square on top.

Step 3. Insert your launch tab from Step 1 through the cardboard sandwich. If it does not slide freely, trim as needed. Place a strip of tape along the shortest edge to prevent jamming.



Step 4. Stretch the two rubber bands around the cardboard gear flinger as shown.

Now you are ready to set your gears flying!

Step 5. To use your gear flinger, insert the cardboard gear into the window. Pull back the launch tab until the gear drops into place. Now let go! Your gear should fly across the room.

ANCIENT GEARS

Gears are machine parts consisting of toothed wheels attached to a rotating shaft. They operate in pairs to transmit and modify rotary motion and torque without slip, the teeth of one engaging the teeth on its pair.

In 1901, divers discovered the 2,000-year-old Antikythera mechanism in a shipwreck off the coast of the Greek island of Antikythera. The device once had more than 30 interlocking bronze gears that predicted the phases of the moon, eclipses, the dates of the Olympics, and the movement of planets and stars.

(Source: smithsonianmag.com)